[Translation]

Area Under Forest Cover

670. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any survey for increasing the area under forest cover; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when such a survey was last made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Forest Survey of India does the work of assessment of forest cover of the country on a two year cycle using satellite data since 1981. Latest assessment of the period 1991-93 has been done by Forest Survey of India and published in 1996 as "The State of Forest Report, 1995". Following are the details of various surveys carried out :

(Area in sq. km.)

S. No.	Assessment year	Satellite data period	Forest cover	Percentage to the geographical area
1.	1987	1981-83	642.041	19.52
2.	1989	1985-87	640.134	19.47
3.	1991	1987-89	639.182	19.44
4.	1993	1989-91	640.107	19.47
5.	1995	1991-93	639.600	19.46

Development of New Information Technology

671. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have developed a new information technology to keep an eye on the criminals and to arrest them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred in the project; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). As a quick response service to detect crime, the Government has created network viz Crime-Criminal Information System, for collection, storage and dissemination of information on crimes, criminals and properties. Computers have been installed at 570 district headquarters (District Crime Records Bureau) 32 State/UT capitals (State Crime Records Bureau) and National Capital (National Crime Records Bureau). An expenditure of Rs. 27.92 crore approximately has been incurred on the project so far. Operating System has been loaded in all the computer systems. Computers have become operational. Database creation activity has also commenced.

[English]

Infiltration from Bangladesh

672. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether a large number of infiltration of Bangladeshis has taken place in Orissa;

(b) whether the successive Governments of Orissa have paid attention to this grave problem;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to check the influx of the Bangladeshis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) A seriess of measures have been taken by the Government to curb the problem of infiltration of Bangladeshi nationals into India. These measures include raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between the border outposts, intensification of patrolling both on the land and the riverine border, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing, increase in the number of outpost, Towers, provision of surveillance equipments etc. The matter has also been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh on various occasions. The progress of these measures is reviewed regularly at various levels.

[Translation]

Old Age Homes

673. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of old age homes alongwith their locations constructed in Bihar during the financial year 1995-96;

(b) the number of persons getting benefits therefrom; and